GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:497
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2005
AMENDING VISA PROCEDURE FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS
Pallani Shamy Shri K.C .;Rawat Shri Bachi Singh

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has amended the procedure for obtaining visa by foreign students who are pursuing or intend to pursue higher studies for Universities and institutions in India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E.AHAMED)

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) Procedure for grant of student visa and subsequent extension on a student visa has been liberalized. All Indian Missions have been delegated powers to grant student visa for a period of five years, or for the duration of the course of study, whichever is less to a foreign student coming to India for pursuing regular and full time academic studies on production of proof of admission in a recognized/reputed institution in India. The duration of the provisional visa to a foreign student who does not possess a firm letter of admission from the University/Educational Institution, has been enhanced from three months to six months. All the State Governments / UT Administrations have been delegated powers to grant further extension of visa to the foreign students wherever required.